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Private School Participation in Federal Programs: Consultation

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Paula Gaddis
Private School Consultant
Tennessee Department of Education
615-741-3262
Paula.Gaddis@tn.gov



Key Points

- 1. The law provides for the equitable participation of private school students, teachers and, in some cases, other education personnel and parents in some of its major programs.
- 2. Consultation between public and private school officials must be timely and meaningful.

Key Point 1: Equitable Participation

- ☐ Title I Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
- □Title II-A Preparing, Training and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals
- ■Title III Language Instruction for LEP and Immigrant Students
- □Title IV 21st Century Schools

Equitable if the LEA:

- Assesses, addresses and evaluates the needs of private school students and teachers;
- Provides benefits and services that meet the needs of private school students and teachers;
- Spends an equal amount of funds per student to provide services;

Equitable if the LEA

- Begins services with private school students at the same time as public school students; and
- Provides private school students and teachers with an opportunity to participate in activities equivalent to the opportunity provided public school students and teachers.

Key Point II: Consultation

The goal of the consultation process is to design and implement a program that will provide equitable services and meet the needs of eligible private school student and/or teachers and other educational personnel.

Consultation Process/Timeline

- January Intent to Participate letter to all non-public, non-profit schools - required by law
- Conduct information meeting
- Conduct face-to-face consultation with private school officials
- Plan complete late spring or early summer

Consultation: timely



- Timely consultation is required:
 Title I Section 1120 (b)(2) of ESEA
 All other Titles Section 9501(c)(3) of ESEA
- 2. Consultation shall occur **before** the local education agency makes any decision that affects the opportunities to participate of eligible private school children, teachers, and other education personnel.

Consultation: timely

- 3. Initial, complete consultation early
- 4. Plan designed prior to final funds determination
- Consultation must continue throughout the implementation and assessment of services
- 6. Adequate notice



Consultation required on

- How the children's and teacher's needs will be identified,
- What services will be offered,
- How and where the services will be provided,
- □ Program specific concerns,

Consultation is required on

- □ How the services will be assessed and how the results of the assessment will be used to improve those services
- What service delivery mechanisms will be used to provide equitable services
- Who will provide the services

- Consultation is required on
- ☐ The amount of funds available to serve private school students,
- ☐ The size and scope of the services to be provided,
- □ How and when the agency(LEA) will make decisions about the delivery of services, and
- □ Consideration of the views of the private school officials regarding use of third-party providers.

■ Where the LEA disagrees with the views of the private school officials on the provision of services through a third-party contract, LEA provides required written explanation of the reasons why the local education agency has chosen not to use a contractor.



Third-party Contracts

- Contract must be under the control and supervision of the LEA.
- LEA remains responsible.
- LEA remains in control of all funds.



Third-party Contracts

- Include a detailed description of Title I services to be provided to the private school students.
- Detail when, where and by whom services will be provided.
- Specify that services must be "secular, neutral, and nonideological."
- Break out instructional and administrative costs.

Misc.

- •IIA PD one day or short term PD is permissible
- •Materials for IIA O.K. if directly related to the IIA supported PD
- •Waiver if through the waiver you moved 100% of your IIA money into I, you still will be required to set-aside the 00-01 hold harmless funds for private school PD out of the original IIA allocation.
- •Include in consultation a discussion of deadlines for information needed by the district and consequences.

Upcoming

- Private School Survey Februaryish
- January 23rd webinar survey
- Followup Survey



Questions?



Contact

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USDE OIG Hotline

- Anyone suspecting fraud, waste or abuse involving Department of Education funds or programs should call or write the Inspector General's Hotline:
- Send an email message to <u>oig.hotline@ed.gov</u>
- Call the OIG Hotline toll free: 1-800-MIS-USED.
- To ensure complete anonymity, download a hardcopy of the special complaint form, complete, and mail to:
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